

## 2019-2020 Law Changes

### Law 3

- A player who is being substituted must leave the field at the nearest point on the boundary line, unless otherwise directed by the referee (avoids time wasting)

### Law 4

- Undershirts can be multi-coloured/patterned if exactly the same as the sleeve of the main shirt

### Law 5

- Referee cannot change a restart decision after play has restarted but, in certain circumstances (see details on line), may issue a YC/RC for a previous incident
- If the referee leaves the field for a VAR review or to call players back to the field at the end of a half, a decision can still be changed.
- Team officials guilty of misconduct can be shown a YC/RC; if an offender cannot be identified, the senior coach in the technical area receives the YC/RC.
- If a penalty kick is awarded, the team's penalty taker can receive assessment or treatment and then stay on the field and take the kick
- Use abandoned instead of terminated.

### Law 7

- Clarification of the difference between 'cooling' (1.5-3 min) and 'drinks' breaks(1 min) and add time for this allowance.

### Law 8

- The team that wins the toss may choose to take the kick-off (or goal to attack)
- The ball is dropped for the defending team goalkeeper in their penalty area if, when play was stopped:
  - the ball was in the penalty area or
  - the last touch of the ball was in the penalty area.
- In all other cases, the referee drops the ball for one player of the team that last touched the ball at the position where it last touched a player, an outside agent or, as outlined in Law 9.1, a match official.
- All other players (of both teams) must remain at least 4m (4.5 yds) from the ball until it is in play.
- The ball is in play when it touches the ground.

### Law 9

- The ball is out of play if it touches a match official, remains on the field of play and:
  - A team starts a promising attack or
  - The ball goes directly into the goal or
  - The team in possession of the ball changes.

In all these cases, play is restarted with a dropped ball.

The ball is in play at all other times including when it touches a match official and when it rebounds off a match official, goalpost, crossbar or corner flagpost and remains on the field of play.

### Law 10

- Goalkeeper cannot score by throwing the ball into the opponents' goal

## Law 12

- Handball text re-written (see separate description)
- The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction.
- If, after a throw-in or deliberate pass from a team-mate, the goalkeeper unsuccessfully Kicks/tries to kick the ball to release it into play, the goalkeeper can then handle the ball.
- Referee can delay issuing a YC/RC until the next stoppage if the non-offending team takes a quick free kick and creates a goal-scoring opportunity.
- The YC for an 'illegal' goal celebration remains even if the goal is disallowed.
- List of the warning/YC/RC offenses for team officials (see details on line)
- Physical offenses are punished with a DFK or IDFK; verbal IDFK.
- Kicking an object is punished in the same way as throwing an object.

## Law 13

- Once an IDFK has been taken, the referee can stop showing the IDFK signal if it is clear that goal cannot be scored directly (e.g. from most offside IDFKs)
- For defending team free kicks in their penalty area, the ball is in play once it is kicked and clearly moves; it does not have to leave the penalty area
- When there is a defensive 'wall' of at least 3 players, all attacking team players must be at least 1 yard from the 'wall'; IDFK if they encroach.

## Law 14

- Goalposts, crossbar and nets must not be moving when a penalty is taken and the goal keeper must not be touching them
- Goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot on, or in line with, the goal line when a penalty kick is taken; cannot stand behind the line
- If an offense occurs after the referee signals for a penalty kick to be taken but the kick is not taken, it must then be taken after any YC/RC is issued

## Law 15

- Opponents must be at least 2m from the point on the touchline where a throw-in is to be taken, even if the thrower is back from the line

## Law 16

- At goal kicks, the ball is in play once it is kicked and clearly moves; it does not have to leave the penalty area (this will be problematic for U10 and some U12 matches)